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STATE AWARDS FOR FILMS 1955

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, NEW DELHI

DECEMBER 21, 1955

CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF AWARDS

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Film in India, 1954

DURING the year 1954, 274 Indian feature films were approved for public exhibition. Out of these 118 were Hindi, 47 Bengali, 38 Tamil, 27 Telugu, 18 Marathi, 10 Kannada, 8 Malayalam, 3 English, 3 Punjabi, 1 Oriya and 1 Assamese. In the number of feature films released there has been a five per cent increase over the figures of 1953. At this production level, India ranked third as a producer of full length feature films, the first two being United States of America and Japan.

The major centre of production of films continued to be Bombay with Madras and Calcutta taking the second and third place. About 45 per cent of the total number of films were produced at Bombay, about one-third at Madras, about one-fifth at Calcutta and a few at other smaller centres. Most of the Hindi films were produced at Bombay, most of the Bengali films at Calcutta and almost all the Tamil and Telugu films at Madras. Two films were produced in colour and the rest in black and white.

Themes providing material for the Indian feature films included romance, mythology, historical episodes, the lives of saints and social problems. The average length of the film was about 13,000 feet but the films in Telugu, Tamil and Malayalam tended to be longer. Almost all the films had songs, although experiments were made during the year at Bombay and Madras in the production of films without any songs. Dances also continued to be a feature of many films.

A scene from MAHATMA PHULE

A scene from BIRAJ BAHU

In technical quality the Indian feature film has been considered to be as good as any produced elsewhere. As far as themes are concerned, there is a section of film producers who show awareness of the needs of a resurgent nation and are trying to make the Indian film an artistic expression of human values. It has been estimated that the box-office collections have also improved by about ten per cent during the year 1954.

Documentary films numbering 120 were approved for public exhibition for the same period. The usefulness of these films has received increasing recognition, and India has come to occupy a position of importance in the world by the quantity and quality of its documentary production.

The Films Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, has made 38 documentary films during the year. Some of its documentaries have been exhibited at International Film Festivals. Besides documentaries, the Films Division produces a weekly newsreel. Documentaries and newsreels produced

by the Films Division were exhibited in more than three thousand theatres in the country and it has been calculated that approximately sixty crores of people have seen these films in 1954. Among the productions of the Films Division, mention must be made of two film magazines made specially for children.

An outstanding event of the year (1954) was the institution of State Awards for the best films produced in the country. State Awards are intended to encourage production of films of a high aesthetic and technical standard and educational and cultural value. The President's Gold Medal for the best Indian feature film of 1953 was presented to the film "*SHYAMCHI-AAI*" (Marathi) produced and directed by P.K. Atre. Certificates of Merit for feature films were awarded to "*DO BIGHA ZAMIN*" (Hindi) produced and directed by Bimal Roy and to "*BHAGVAN SRI KRISHNA CHAITANYA*" (Bengali) produced and directed by Debaki Kumar Bose. The Prime Minister's Gold Medal for the best children's film produced up to the year 1953 could not be awarded as none of the entries was considered to be of a sufficiently high standard. However, a Certificate of Merit for the children's film was awarded to "*KHELA GHAR*" (Bengali) produced by Aurora Films. In the documentary section, the President's Gold Medal for the best

A scene from MIRZA GHALIB

documentary was awarded to "*MAHABALIPURAM*" produced by the Films Division and directed by Jagat Murari. Certificates of Merit in this section were awarded to "*HOLY HIMALAYAS*" produced by the Films Division and directed by K.L. Khandpur and "*TREE OF WEALTH*" produced by the Information Films of India and directed by A. Bhaskar Rao.

The need for making films specially suitable for children came to be recognised more and more during the year. Government announced the decision to set up a Children's Film Society for production and distribution of special films for children and to give grants to the society for the purpose.

In May, 1954, Government published their decisions on the recommendations of the Film Inquiry Committee and announced their intention to form a National Film Board, a Film Production Bureau and a Film Institute. Preparatory work for giving these decisions a concrete shape was started and continued during the year.

In all 930 Indian films and 1,777 imported films (feature films as well as shorts) were examined by the Central Board of Film Censors in 1954. The total footage of Indian films examined was 48,36,001 feet and of imported films 37,19,504 feet. 12 imported films were refused certificates while no Indian feature film was refused a certificate by the Board in 1954.

With a steady increase in the number of feature films produced, greater popularity of the documentary and the educational short, expanding audiences and superior technical methods employed and with greater emphasis on social awareness in the selection of themes, the Indian Film Industry forged ahead in 1954.

A scene from NEELAKKUYIL

A scene from CHEETAKAR

Feature Films Approved for Public Exhibition in 1954

HINDI:

Afreeka ; Baap Beti ; Dhoop Chhaon ; Samrat ; Ramman; Dhobi Doctor ; Suhagan; Dost ; Lakeeren ; Maun; Haar Jeet ; Taxi Driver ; Toote Khilone ; Baadbaan ; Bazooband ; Bhai Saheb ; Payal Ki Jhankar ; Ilzam ; Majboori ; Prisoner of Golconda ; Alibaba & Forty Thieves ; Sadma ; Dak Babu ; Miss Mala ; Sangam ; Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh (Revised) ; Angarey ; Sheeshe Ki Diwar ; Aulad ; Gokul Ka Raja ; Shart ; Pooja ; Malika-E-Alam Noor Jehan ; Kasturi ; Aar Paar ; Sher Dil ; Hanuman Janma alias Sati Anjani ; Laila ; Teen Tasveeren ; Raj Yogi ; Shahab ; Gawaiya ; Ferry (Kashti) ; Watan ; Maha Puja ; Naaz ; Subah Ka Tara ; Sitamgar alias Khubsurat Tapu ; Danka ; Darwaza ; Khushboo ; Hakumat ; Ramayan ; Rishta ; Ehsan ; Vijayagarh ; Chor Bazar ; Munna ; Shama Parwana ; Nastik ; Waris ; Amar Keertan ; Shiv Kanya ; Pilpli Saheb ; Jadugar ; Saltanat ; Noor Mahal ; Chalis Baba Ek Chor ; Savdhaan ; Eraj Babu ; Radha Krishna ; Kavi ; Tilotta-na & Pahili Tarikh ; Mastana ; Guzaara ; Ibrat ; Shivratri ; Durga Pooja ; Barati ; Amar ; Badshah ; Mehboobia ; Fujiflama ; Kalakar ; Aurat Teri Yehi Kahani ; Ameer ; Toofan ; Pehli Jalalak ; Chakaradhari ; Gul Ghahar ; Mirza Ghalib ; Halla Gulla ; Bilwamangal ; Mahatma Kabir ; Lal Pari ; Parichay ; Tubida ; Mangu ;

A scene from MALAIKKALLAM

Pensioner ; Hamlet ; Adhikar ; Naukri ; Samaj ; Nagin ; Khaiber ; Jagriti ; Chor Bazar ; Meenar ; Dakoo Ki Ladki ; Gahrayi ; Shubha ; Chitrangada ; Manohar ; Bahut Din Huwe ; Ladka ; Pyase Nain ; Chandni Chowk.

PUNJABI :

Ashtalli ; Vanjaraa ; Shahji.

ENGLISH : Maiun Atma [A Great Soul] ; Prisoner of Golcanda ; Monsoon.

MARATHI :

Kanchanganga ; Taraka ; Owalni ; In Min Saade Teen ; Sasar Maher ; Sarsar Karaychay Mala ; Teen Mulan ; Ooo Paus ; Purusachi Jaat ; Shashi ; Zanzavat ; Postatil Mulgi ; Maharani Yesubai ; Reshmachya Ganthi ; Khel Chalala Nashibacha ; Baby ; Shubha Mangal ; Mahatma Phule.

TAMIL :

Chandrabharam ; Rajee E Kammani ; Karkottai ; Panivayal ; Vidudhalai ; Manohara ; Panam Padudhum Padu ; Illara Jyothi ; Andru Nall ; Kalyanam Pannyum Brahmachari ; Vilayattu Bommai ; Nallakalam ; Manglyam ; Sorgavasal ; Puthuyugam ; Penn ; Irulukkuppin ; Malaikallan ; Thuli Visham ; Kanavu ; Rakthu Pasam ; Thookku—Thookki ; Koondukkili ; Sugam Enges ; Kudumbam ; Muthiyum Mamathaiayum ; Vairamalai ; Ammaiappan ; Avan Yar ; Nanbhan ; Manaivi ; En Magal ; Rathakkaneer ; Panamachha Thirumbivandhan ; Padmini ; Ethirparathathu ; Jyothi ; Veerasundari.

TELUGU :

Anta Manavalle ; Rajeeh-Na-Pranam ; Perida Manushulau ;

Vaddante Dabbu ; Nirupedalu : ¾ Chakrapani ; Thodu Dongalu ; Balanandam ; Jyothi ; Manohara ; Rajoo Peda ; Sangham ; Aggi-Ramudu ; Raja Guru ; Parivarthana ; Prajarajyam ; Iddaru Pellalu ; Ma Gopi ; Jathaka Palam ; Menarikam ; Rangaru Bhoomi ; Amarasandesam ; Kalahasthi Mahatyam ; Palle Paduchu ; Vipranarayana ; Annadhatha ; Sathi Sakkubai.

MALAYALAM :

Avakasi ; Avan Varunnu ; Sandehi or Gruhadevatha ; Marmasakshi ; Puthra Dharmam ; Neelakuyil ; Balyasakhi ; Sneha Seema.

KANNADA :

Rajalakshmi ; Jaladurga ; Deva Kanika ; Natasekhara ; Bedara Kannappa ; Adhikari ; Kanyadana ; Doddapa ; Madiddunne Marayya ; Muthidella Chinna or Golden Touch.

ASSAMESE :

Sati Beula

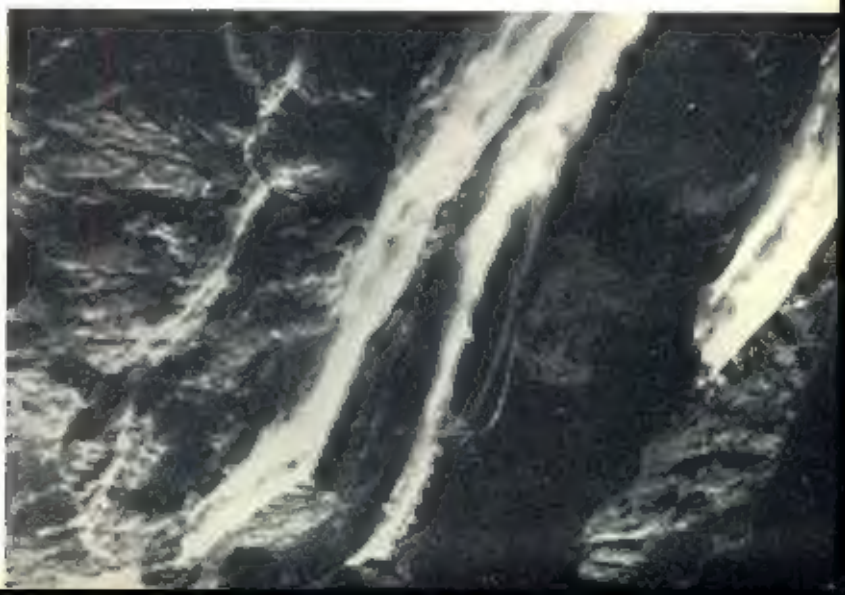
BENGALI :

Moner Moyur ; Naramedh—Yagna ; Aj Sandhyay ; Nagarik ; Satir Dehatyag ; Ankush ; Ma. Annapurna ; Subha Jatra ; Bikram Urbashi ; Nababidhan ; Champadangar Bou ; Na ; Jagribi ; Sada Kalo ; Nad-O-Nadi ; Kalyani ; Mahila Mahal ; Panraksha ; Prafulla ; Sati ; Dhooli ; Sati Behula ; Banglar Nari ; Amar Prem ; Ladies Seat ; Nil Shari ; Ei Satyee ; Maraner Parey ; Moni-Ar-Manik ; Sadanander Mela ; Jiban-O-Judha ; Barbela ; Annapurnar Mandir ; Chheley Kaar ; Agni-Pariksha ; Soroshi ; Bakul ; Shiva Sakti ; Han ; Durlav-Janam ; Griha Prabesh ; Joydev ; Jadu Bhatta ; Bhanga-Guru ; Mantrasakti ; Dui Bon ; Balay Gras.

ORIYA :

Kodar Gouri

A scene from the GOLDEN RIVER



Documentaries Approved for Public Exhibition in 1954

Kaira Union Diary	C.M. Patel, Government Milk Colony, Bombay
Busy Hands	Films Division, Bombay
Folk Dances of India	Films Division, Bombay
Famine Reliefs 1952-53	Directorate of Publicity, Government of Bombay
Spiti	M. Bhavnani, Bombay
Palms to Pines	Films of India, Bombay
Hamara Pashu Dhan	Films of India, Bombay
Roof Over the Head	Directorate of Publicity, Government of Bombay
Prime Minister at Aarey Milk Colony	Government of Bombay
Dhan Kheti	Director of Agriculture, Madhya Pradesh
Kalakaron Ki Gangotri	Directorate of Publicity, Government of Bombay
Taming the Sutlej	Films Division, Bombay
Portrait of a Policeman	Films Division, Bombay
Khet Ki Khuruk	Films Division, Bombay
White Manure	Films Division, Bombay
Chawal Paida Karneka Ek Naya Tarika	Films Division
Versha Mangal	Education Expansion Department U.P.
Song of the South	Films Division, Bombay
Sawadhani Bartiye (stop rough handling)	Films Division, Bombay
Modest Homes	Films Division, Bombay
Ganesh, God of Good Luck	Films of India, Bombay
Bhopal	Films Division, Bombay
Farmer on the Floating Field	Films of India, Bombay
Malaria Control	Ama Ltd., Bombay
Fishing for Food	Ama Ltd., Bombay
River Valley Project	Ama Ltd., Bombay
How to Grow More Paddy	Ama Ltd., Bombay
Trip to South India	Films of India, Bombay
Social Education	Directorate of Publicity, Government of Bombay
Hulikeri Pilot Project	Mysore Adult Education Council

People's Participation	Films Division, Bombay
Training for Progress	Sahgal Films, Simla
Our Cattle Wealth	Films Division, Bombay
Your Control [illegible]	Films Division, Bombay
Mission of Peace	Films Division, Bombay
Jan Swasthya Sudhar	Sahgal Films, U.P.
Kadi Sudhar	Sahgal Films
Milky Way	Directorate of Publicity, Government of Bombay
N.C.C. Marches on	Films Division, Bombay
One Thousand Hands	Anna Ltd., Bombay
Under the Mango Tree	National Education and Information Films, Bombay
	Leela Mattle
A Day in Kashmir	Government of Orissa
Car Festival	Government of Orissa
Adibasis of Orissa	Saurashtra Gram Prachar
Manavata Ne Marge	Sahgal Sons [illegible]
	Government of Orissa
Minor Irrigation	Films Division, Bombay
Spirit of the Loom	Films Division, Bombay
Vindhya Pradesh	Films Division, Bombay
Road Sense	National Education and Information Films Ltd., Bombay
Singing Punjabees	Directorate of Publicity, Government of Bombay
	Films Division, Bombay
Golden Grain	My Own Studio, Bombay
	Films Division, Bombay
Building from Below	Rohit Films, Bombay
Story of Bombay Water Supply	Films Division, Bombay
The Case of Mr. Grito	Films Division, Bombay
Vallabh Vidyanagar	Films Division, Bombay
Flying Saucers	Directorate of Publicity, Government of Bombay
Invest in Your Future	Films Division, Bombay
Accent on Youth	
Scale or Target	
	Films Division
Darjeeling	Directorate of Publicity, Govt. of Bombay
	Education Expansion Department U.P.
Family Planning	Education Expansion Department U.P.
Harijan	Films Division, Bombay
	Singh Bros., Bombay
Wasteless Prism	Films Division, Bombay
	Information Films & Ved Chandra, Bombay
Hindi Devnagri Script	
Planned Achievement	
Ganga	
Important People	
Towards the Rising Sun [illegible] East	

December 21

5 p m **PRESENTATION**
National Phy

- Nat onal Anthem
- Introdu B
  Presentat on of reports
- The Presidents Address
- Presentation of Awards
  the President of India Pres
- Speech of thanks
  Exhibition of State Award

II

- Fan S te Awar

December 22

10 a.m. **SYMPOSIUM "BIOC**
Cons

Prof. N.K S

SPEAKERS M
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5-30 p m. **Reception by Min**
at

GOLD AND SILVER MEDALS
Laboratory Auditorium

...shar
...of the Central Committee of Awards

...ans, 6 silver medals and 16 Merit Certificates to
...m of honorarium to Shri N. S. Thapa

...tary film

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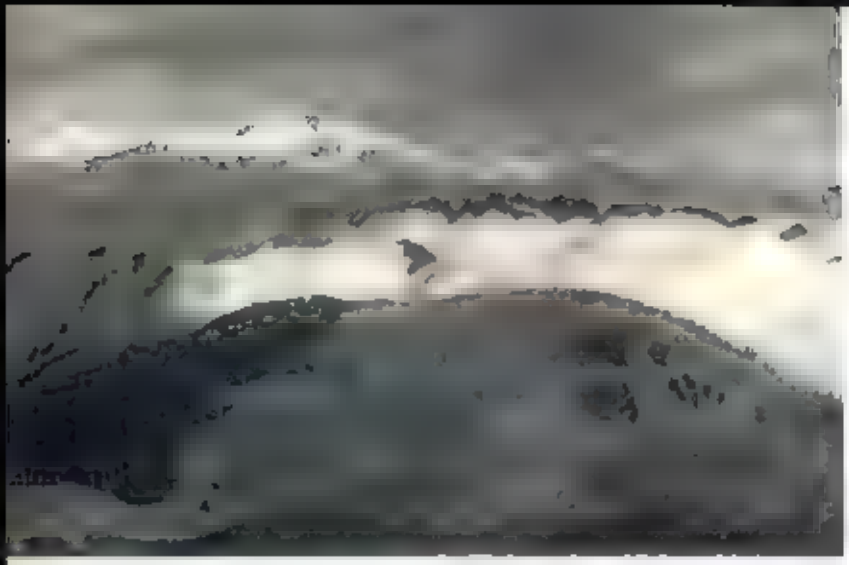
...f Information & Broadcasting
...rapati Bhavan



Sangeet Bharati Part	Rajkamal Kala Mandir, Bombay
Mahabharata	
Men of Letters	Films Division, Bombay
Symphony of Life	Films Division, Bombay
Realm of Song	Films Division, Bombay
Bal Bharati	Education Expansion Department, U.P.
Ramayana Part	Education Expansion Department, U.P.
The Magic Flute	Films Division, Bombay
Sangeet Mere Dwar Krishna	Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, Bombay
Be Prepared	Vasant Productions, Poona
Children Rivers	Films Division, Bombay
Lotus and Love	Films of India, Bombay
Elephants & Festival	Films of India
Mahatma Gandhi	Rajkamal Kala Mandir, Bombay
Mother Child	Films Division, Bombay
Al	Directorate of Publicity, Bombay
Community Development Project	Directorate of Publicity, Bombay
In Defence of Freedom	Films Division, Bombay
Save Our Soil	Films Division, Bombay
Our Indian Earth	Anna Ltd., Bombay
The Resurrection	Films Division, Bombay
Delhi the Capital of India	Eastern Movies, Delhi
The Magic of the Sea	National Education and Information Films, Bombay
Kerala Kerala	Anna Ltd., Bombay
Improved Seeds	Films Division, Bombay

Towards Freedom	Information Films & News Co., Bombay
Tiger Shikar in India	Frank Ferrar [illegible] Bombay
The Voice of India Heritage of India	Gandhi Films Committee Bombay Projection of India Pictures Madras
Vidyapeeta	The Mysore Adult Education Council Mysore
Mysore	The Mysore Adult Education Council Mysore
Miscellaneous Films	The Mysore Adult Education Council, Mysore
Forest Beer	The Mysore Adult Education Council Mysore
Cauvery Kannada Dangers of the Home Leprosy Revised	General Tea Board Calcutta The Chamber of Commerce Calcutta

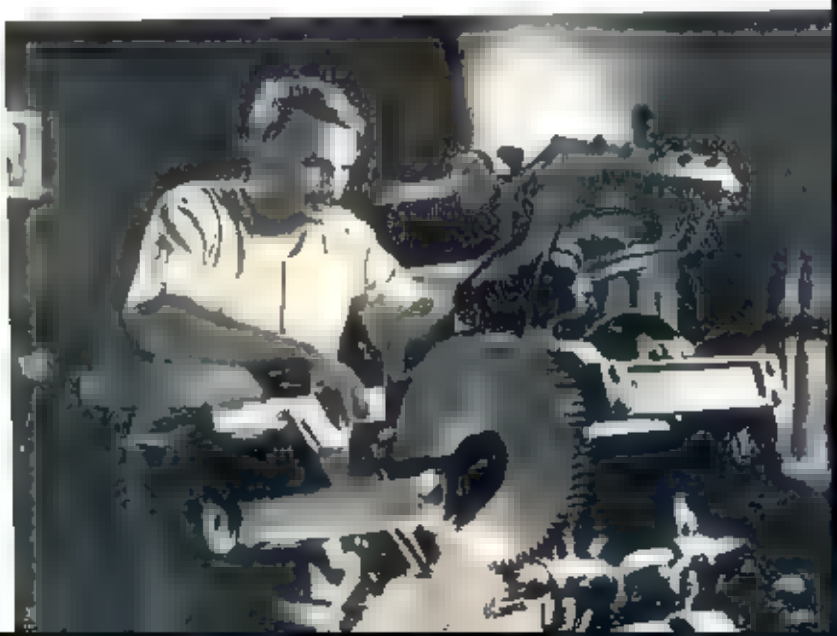
Award Films

PRESIDENT'S GOLD MEDAL FOR THE ALL-INDIA BEST FEATURE FILM & PRESIDENT'S SILVER MEDAL *Hindi*

MIRZA GHALIB *(Hindi)* Producer: [illegible] Movies (India) Private Ltd., Bombay.

Set against a historical background, the film [illegible] well-integrated social problems [illegible] centred round the life of the poet.

The picture portrays [illegible] aspects of the life of Mirza Ghalib [illegible] Nawab Zia-ud-Din Ahmed Khan, [illegible] Chief Minister of Jaipur, Bhartendu Nath Mishra, [illegible] well-known Urdu scholar, Mirza [illegible] Begum, [illegible] Pt. Shiv Narain [illegible]



...ewarded by mass and ...le ing. M... ...ves ... ... Mirza's life when ... dance makes her discover Mirza ... Lucknow with Bua Mirza finally rushes to her from the prison where he was held so great is the power of true love. It was ...ddess ... and Mirza ... happy, Mirza by her side

ALL INDIA CERTIFICATE OF MERIT
& PRESIDENT'S SILVER MEDAL *Malayalam*

NEELAKKUYIL *Malayalam* ... Productions, Madras

The social conditions in Malabar form the central ... of this ... we be ... a boy ... and a *Pulaya* Harijan girl. The story ... grow up as a Nair or a Muslim or a *Pulaya* ... Christian but him up as a MAN.'

ALL INDIA CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

BIRAJ BAHU *(Hindi)* ... Bombay.

BASED on Sarat Chandra's book ... of love and faith. However the drama ... when ... creeps into their life as ... over years. In keeping with the Indian ... Biraj returns home, to ... a repentant husband.

PRESIDENT'S SILVER MEDAL *Bengali*

CHHELEY KHAR *Bengali* ...

... has ... leaves ... Kuna. Of course the ... chases Kuna ... Kuna ... so ... merry-go-round goes on. The boy is good and lovable and so everybody is happy because ...

PRESIDENT'S SILVER MEDAL *Tamil*

MALAIKKALLAN *Tamil* ... Combatore

THE central character ... is ... to ... ...

PRESIDENT'S SILVER MEDAL *[illegible]*

MAHATMA PHULE (*Marathi*) Produced by [illegible] Bombay

THIS is the inspiring story of Jyotiba Phule born in [illegible] recognised and honoured as a Mahatma.

More than hundred years ago, this man was facing [illegible] and determined [illegible] and decided [illegible]

PRESIDENT'S SILVER MEDAL *[illegible]*

DEVAMANUSHI (*Tamil*) Produced by [illegible] Madras

[illegible] was presented [illegible] and devotion [illegible] and devotion both body and soul.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

THODA DONGAL (*Telugu*) Produced by [illegible] Theatres, Madras

[illegible] and Ramdas [illegible] complete reformation.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

VAIRAVARAVA (*Telugu*) Produced by [illegible] Madras

THIS story deals with a well known devotee of God, Sri Kanaka Dasa known as Vaira Vittala [illegible] Krishna [illegible] devotee named Adi [illegible] devotee named "Monsha".

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

ANDHA NAAL (*Tamil*) Produced by A.V.M. Productions, Madras

THIS story is made possible by [illegible] a complete [illegible] peace officers [illegible] fascinating [illegible] officer [illegible] other criminal [illegible] or [illegible]

The [illegible] appears [illegible]

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

LIHIRPARATHATH [illegible] Producer [illegible] Navarathnam [illegible] Pictures, Madras

[illegible] based [illegible] was awarded [illegible] was extended, after [illegible] deal [illegible]

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

SNEHA SEEMA [illegible] Producer [illegible] Associated Pictures, Madras.

[illegible] from Film [illegible]

How the love of youngsters for one another comes into conflict with forces of social tradition is depicted in this story of three playmates who grow up in different social environments.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

BEDARA KANNAPPA (*Kannada*): Produced by Gubbi Karnataka Productions, Madras.

THIS is the story of a simple hunter who has absolute faith in God. After various experiences, Dinnah, who, due to a curse was born a hunter, devotes himself to God Shiva.

Based on a well-known traditional story, Dinnah as a result of his final act becomes immortal under the name of Kannappa.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

JAGRITI (*Hindi*): Produced by Filmistan Ltd. Bombay.

The theme of the film is the influence of a good teacher canalising the ebullient spirits of school boys into constructive and creative endeavour.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

JADU BHATTA (*Bengali*): Produced by Sunrise Film Distributors, Calcutta.

BASED on the life of Jadu Bhatta, who was born with an intense urge for music, the film shows how after many reverses he achieved perfection as a singer.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

ANNAPURNAR MANDIR (*Bengali*): Produced by Chitra Mandir, Calcutta.

THE central theme of this story is the marriage arranged between a young girl and an octogenarian and the hardships which follow such a match.

PRESIDENT'S GOLD MEDAL FOR THE BEST DOCUMENTARY FILM

SPIRIT OF THE LOOM: Produced by Films Division; Directed by V.R. Sarma.

FROM its early beginnings, the story of the handloom in India, one of the oldest symbols of civilisation and today the second largest cottage industry, is recaptured in this documentary.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT (Documentary)

DARJEELING: Produced by Films Division; Directed by K.L. Khandpur.

THE queen of hill-stations, Darjeeling in the eastern Himalayas, is the theme of this fascinating documentary.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT (Documentary)

THE GOLDEN RIVER: Produced by Films Division; Directed by P.V. Pathy.

This documentary traces the course of the river Kaveri, traditionally revered as sacred and the life-stream of the country through which it flows.

A scene from JAGRITI

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National Printing Works, Delhi (India).